

JULY 1993

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF ISRAEL
FOR CAPRINE EMBRYOS EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

The embryos must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate shall contain the name and address of both the consignor and consignee and complete identification of the embryos to be exported. Additional information shall include:

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. The United States has been free of foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest for at least 6 months prior to the dates of collection and exportation of the embryos.
2. The embryos in this shipment are the progeny of dams and sires from herds and artificial insemination centers which are free of brucellosis, tuberculosis, and vesicular stomatitis.
3. The donor sire and dam were born and reared on farms or in herds free of scrapie for at least the last 10 years.
4. The donor sire and dam are progeny of animals which have been maintained during at least the last 10 years in herds or farms free of scrapie.
5. The donor sire producing the semen for the production of the export embryos was negative to a serum agglutination test for brucellosis and an agar-gel immunodiffusion test (AGID) for caprine arthritis encephalitis (CAE) within the 6 months after collection of the semen utilized.
6. An aliquot (2 straws) of semen from the same collection (same collection code) used to inseminate the donor dam for production of the export embryos has been negative to a culture test for bluetongue.
7. During the 30 days prior to collection of the embryos, no clinical signs of infectious or contagious diseases transmissible to goats have been observed by the accredited veterinarian in the herd of origin.
8. The embryos in this shipment have had no contact with and were not stored in the same container with other embryos which do not have the same health status.

TEST REQUIREMENTS

The donor dams were negative to the following diseases at least 30 days and not more than 1 year after collection of the embryos.

Leptospirosis - Microtiter agglutination test at 1:400 for: L. autumnalis, L. canicola, L. grippotyphosa, L. hardjo, L. icterohaemorrhagiae, L. pomona, and L. sejroe. If positive at 1:400 the donor must have a stable or descending titer on a second test no less than 14 days later. Vaccination status must be indicated on the certificate.

2. Bluetongue - Agar-gel immunodiffusion (AGID) test.
3. Epizootic hemorrhagic disease - AGID tests using Alberta and New Jersey antigens.
4. Brucellosis - standard tube agglutination test (less than 30 IU/ml; negative at 1:50).
5. Tuberculosis - Intradermal caudal fold test with bovine PPD tuberculin.
6. Vesicular stomatitis - serum neutralization test at 1:8 dilution.
7. Caprine arthritis encephalitis (CAE) - AGID test.

COLLECTION/WASHING REQUIREMENTS

1. The collection of embryos should be made under strict hygienic conditions.
2. Washing of the embryos. Before the embryos are handled for freezing they must be washed in 10 changes of embryo culture media. The pipettes used to transfer the embryos between washes must be changed after each of the 10 transfers, and each should constitute a hundred-fold dilution of the previous wash.
3. The washing medium should be specified in detail on the certificate.
4. Sterilized tanks should be used for storing the embryos. Separate sealed vials or straws should be used for each embryo.
5. Only embryos with intact zona pellucida are to be processed up to, and including freezing.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The following additional information must be indicated on the certificate:

1. The name and address of the organization collecting and freezing the embryos.
2. The identification number of donor dams and sires and registration number if applicable.
3. The name and address of the consignee.
4. The embryos' identification numbers, number of days after insemination that the embryos were collected, and the type and markings of the container.
5. A prior permit to import embryos must be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture, Veterinary Services and Animal Health, Post Office Box 12, Beit Dagan, 50200, Israel.
6. Legible copies of completed test charts must accompany the certificate.

OTHER INFORMATION

Herd Freedom for tuberculosis, brucellosis, and vesicular stomatitis shall be based on there being no official reports of the diseases in the herd during the 6 months prior to collection of embryos.